

NEW STATE GOVERNMENT.

List of Executive, Legislative and Judicial Officers.

POLITICAL COMPLEXION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Financial Affairs of the State, the Canal Board and the Sinking Fund.

Business to Come Before the Legislature.

Laws for the City of New York--Report of the Police Committee.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

The government of the State of New York, holding office from and after the first day of January, 1856, is composed of the following named persons, who will meet at Albany, at noon to-day, to organize the government--

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

Black republicans in italics; Know Nothing in small capitals; democrats in roman.

Office.	Name.	Term Expires.
Governor.	Wm. H. Clark.	Jan. 1, 1857.
Lieut. Governor.	Henry J. Raymond.	" 1857.
Secretary of State.	John T. Brady.	" 1856.
Comptroller.	James H. Thompson.	" 1856.
Treasurer.	Stephen Clark.	" 1858.
Attorney General.	Samuel H. Johnson.	" 1858.
State Engineer.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Canal Commissioners.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Inspectors of State Prisons.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Deputy Secretary of State.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Deputy Attorney General.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Sup't. Public Instruction.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Sup't. Banking Dept.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.
Auditor of the Canal Fund.	James H. Thompson.	" 1858.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Legislative power of the State of New York is vested in a Senate and Assembly, elected by districts. The Senate consists of thirty-two members, and the Senators are elected for two years.

SENATE.

Name.	Term Expires.
Henry J. Raymond.	Pres. ex. officio.
1. Suffolk, Richard A. Quesenberry.	James Rader.
2. Kings.	James Rader.
3. New York City, 6 wards.	Daniel E. Sickles.
4. New York City, 10, 13, 14 wards.	Joseph H. Perry.
5. New York City, 8, 9, 11 wards.	Samuel Spencer.
6. New York City, 12, 15, 16 wards.	Samuel Spencer.
7. Westchester, Columbia, Dutchess, Putnam, Sullivan, Ulster & Greene.	James H. Thompson.
8. Albany & Schenectady.	James H. Thompson.
9. Rensselaer.	James H. Thompson.
10. Washington & Saratoga.	James H. Thompson.
11. Warren, Essex & Clinton.	James H. Thompson.
12. St. Lawrence & Franklin.	James H. Thompson.
13. Herkimer, Hamilton, Fulton & Montgomery.	James H. Thompson.
14. Schoharie & Delaware.	James H. Thompson.
15. Otsego & Chenango.	James H. Thompson.
16. Oneida.	James H. Thompson.
17. Madison & Oswego.	James H. Thompson.
18. Jefferson & Lewis.	James H. Thompson.
19. Onondaga.	James H. Thompson.
20. Cortland, Broome & Tioga.	James H. Thompson.
21. Cayuga & Wayne.	James H. Thompson.
22. Tompkins, Seneca & Yates.	James H. Thompson.
23. Steuben & Chemung.	James H. Thompson.
24. Monroe.	James H. Thompson.
25. Orleans, Niagara & Genesee.	James H. Thompson.
26. Ontario & Livingston.	James H. Thompson.
27. Allegany & Wyoming.	James H. Thompson.
28. Erie.	James H. Thompson.
29. Chautauque & Warren.	James H. Thompson.

ASSEMBLY.

Is composed of 128 members. It meets at the same time as the Senate; members are elected for one year. They elect their Speaker and other officers, and are judges as to the claims and qualifications of persons claiming seats.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF MEMBERS:

Name.	Term Expires.
1. Isaac Witbeck.	James H. Thompson.
2. Jackson King.	James H. Thompson.
3. H. Johnson.	James H. Thompson.
4. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
5. A. H. Martin.	James H. Thompson.
6. Isaac Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
7. L. D. Cobb.	James H. Thompson.
8. Daniel Beckin.	James H. Thompson.
9. George H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
10. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
11. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
12. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
13. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
14. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
15. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
16. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
17. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
18. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
19. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
20. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
21. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
22. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
23. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
24. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
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26. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
27. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
28. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
29. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.
30. James H. Thompson.	James H. Thompson.

THE CANAL BOARD.

The Canal Board is composed of three members, elected by the Senate and Assembly. They are to manage the affairs of the Canal Fund, and to report to the Legislature.

THE SINKING FUND.

The Sinking Fund is established by the Legislature, and is to be used for the purpose of paying the interest on the State debt. It is composed of the proceeds of the sale of the State lands, and of the proceeds of the sale of the State bonds.

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RECAPITULATION.

Democrat..... 60
Know Nothing..... 44
Black republicans..... 23
Total..... 127

According to the new line of parties, the following summary may be made:

Proton King "republicans"..... 30
J. E. H. H. Know Nothing..... 47
Aaron Ward democrat..... 47
Israel T. Hatch soft..... 39
Old line whig..... 1
Total..... 158

ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly should meet on Monday, January 1, at eleven o'clock. The oldest member is generally elected Chairman pro tem, and the House proceeds to vote for a Speaker, sometimes viva voce, and sometimes by ballot.

The organization of the House will not be easily effected this year, unless the republicans call all their votes for a soft shell democrat, in order to defeat the Know Nothings. This is the current rumor at Albany, and Mr. Robinson, a soft shell democrat of Oswego, has been named as the man.

THE JUDICIARY.

The Judiciary of the State of New York is arranged as follows:

1. The Court for the trial of impeachments of State officers. It is composed of the President of the Senate, the Senators and the Judges of the Court of Appeals.

2. The Court of Appeals, which consists of eight Judges; four are elected on the general State ticket, and serve eight years, and four are selected from the Justices of the Supreme Court, having the shortest time to serve. This is a high court of appeals and chancery, and it has the power to hear causes from the lower courts, to set aside their proceedings, to revise their decisions, and to order new trials. The Judge of the four chosen at large having the shortest time to serve, sits as Chief Justice. Six Judges constitute a quorum. Every cause must be decided within the year after it is argued. Four terms are held each year, at Albany, and there should be one term every two years in each judicial district. Each Judge has a salary of \$2,500 per annum.

This court is composed of the following named Judges:

Hiram Denio, of Utica, Chief Judge. Term expires Dec. 1857.

Alexander S. Johnson, of Albany. Term expires Dec. 1859.

George F. Conover, of Cortland. Term expires Dec. 1861.

Samuel L. Selden, of Rochester. Term expires Dec. 1863.

Three democrats and one Know Nothing.

Clark, of P. H. Hartwood, of Livingston, Deputy, Russell F. Hicks, of Albany; State Reporter, Francis S. Newman.

The Judges of the Court of Appeals from the Supreme Bench are taken this year from the old districts, as follows:

William Mitchell, of New York.

William B. Wright, of Kingston.

Frederick W. Hubbard, of Watertown.

Thomas A. Johnson, of Corning.

Making the court stand:

Democrat..... 5

Know Nothing..... 2

Black republicans..... 5

The new Court of Appeals will organize at Albany, on the 24th of January. Of the new Judges, Mr. Selden has long been on the bench of the Supreme Court, and Mr. Conover has been reporter to the Court of Appeals. The new court is considered quite equal to its predecessors.

3. The Supreme Court, having general jurisdiction in law and equity. The State is divided into eight judicial districts, each having four Justices. They serve for eight years, (each \$2,500), but are so classified that one in each district goes out every two years; consequently the people elect eight new Justices at the last election, and the bench now stands thus:

First District..... \$4,000

William Mitchell, of New York..... 1857

James S. Roosevelt..... 1859

George F. Conover..... 1861

Samuel L. Selden..... 1863

Second District..... 1857

John W. Brown, of Newburgh..... 1857

Seah B. Strong, of Delmar..... 1859

William B. Wright, of Kingston..... 1861

Third District..... 1857

William B. Wright, of Kingston..... 1857

Fourth District..... 1857

Corbett, of Albany..... 1859

James S. Roosevelt..... 1861

Samuel L. Selden..... 1863

Fifth District..... 1857

Frederick W. Hubbard, of Watertown..... 1857

James S. Roosevelt..... 1859

Samuel L. Selden..... 1861

Sixth District..... 1857

William B. Wright, of Kingston..... 1857

Seventh District..... 1857

Theresa A. Johnson, of Corning..... 1859

Samuel L. Selden..... 1861

Eighth District..... 1857

James S. Roosevelt..... 1859

Samuel L. Selden..... 1861

Business to Come Before the Legislature.

Almost the first document that will be presented to the Legislature will be the report of Comptroller Cook, who goes out of office, and which will be headed by his successor, Mr. Burrows, who it is believed will be a faithful and efficient guardian of the treasury.

The financial system of this State, under the constitution of 1847, is somewhat complicated, and we have no more than six specific funds, as follows: The General Fund, Sinking Fund, Canal Fund, Common School Fund, Literature Fund, and United States Deposits Fund.

THE GENERAL FUND.

The General Fund is that set apart for the payment of the ordinary expenses of government; its revenue is derived from a direct tax of one mill on every dollar of the assessed property of the State, the net proceeds of which tax amount to \$300,000; an appropriation of \$200,000 from the surplus canal revenue, auction and salt duties (\$154,000), state prison earnings, &c., \$200,000 more, making the entire revenue to this fund about \$1,600,000; the estimated expenses of this year for salaries, printing, Legislature, State prisons, charitable institutions, river improvements, innate asylums, &c., to about \$1,650,000. There has been a deficiency in the revenues of the general fund for several years; commencing in 1848 with about \$37,000, it grew at the end of 1854 to \$270,054.98 and probably this year it will be increased another hundred thousand dollars. The direct tax alluded to was laid by the Legislature of 1853, for the purpose of extinguishing this deficiency, but as the means of the State are increased so does the rapacity of its law makers extend, and the Legislature soon made appropriations enough to swallow up the whole of the mill tax, although it netted over \$300,000. We understand that during the past year, while the receipts have been increased, and while there should have been over a million of extra revenue put in the treasury, including the appropriation of two hundred thousand from the canal--the whole sum being nearly two millions--the deficiency is proportionately as great as ever. When Millard Fillmore was Comptroller of the State, he urged upon the Legislature to practice the most rigid economy in making appropriations from this fund, and every Comptroller has followed his example, but without much effect. In 1849, when the deficiency commenced, the State expenditures on this account

were about \$700,000; but since that time they have doubled. A little has been taken here and a little there--corruption has run riot at Albany, and each succeeding administration has surpassed its predecessor in contriving schemes to deplete the treasury. This shows the folly of the direct tax, unless guarded by law, for the State expenses will always be carried up to the revenue, and the Legislature, knowing that there will be a certain amount in the treasury from all sources, are sure to spend it, and leave the deficiency to be provided for by their successors. This is made plain by the fact that the ordinary expenses of the government have doubled since 1848, thus--

1848-9..... \$711,000
1855-6..... \$1,337,913

To the last item of expense must be added the deficiency of \$270,000, which would bring up the State expenses to more than double what they were seven years ago. The only possible excuse for this is in the prison debt which amounts to \$250,000; but taking that out, we should still have our expenses doubled.

The mode by which the Legislature gets the money is very simple. The School Fund and Literature Fund are made sacred to educational purposes by the State. The running expenses of the government, as appropriated by the Legislature, must be paid, and if the General Fund revenue is deficient, the Comptroller borrows from the School Fund and the Literature Fund. The authority to lay this tax is given in article 7, section 8, of the constitution.

The aggregate valuation of taxable property in the State in 1854 was \$1,364,154,625--real estate, \$1,001,614,033; personal estate, \$272,538,592. Acres of land taxed, 28,169,173; State tax \$1,023,116.27; county tax, \$3,608,267.63; town tax, \$2,060,561.70; total taxation, \$9,038,279.63, of which over one-half (\$4,844,286.07) was paid by the city of New York. Average rate of taxation on one dollar valuation, 6.3 mills; in New York, 10.5 mills. The entire general fund State debt amounts to \$6,355,654.37; the principal State debt, State stock issued and loaned to various railroad companies, is \$920,000. The General Fund is funded in stocks bearing interest and payable at certain periods. When it becomes due new stock is issued to pay it. The principal falling due Jan. 1st, 1855, has been provided for lately by a new loan.

THE SINKING FUND.

Is established by the constitution, art. 7. It was intended as a gradual means of extinguishing the canal debt, which in 1856 amounted to \$5,000,000, and which has now increased to \$17,000,000. It will be seen that the sinking fund scheme has been an entire failure. The constitution provided that on and after June first, 1846, the sum of \$1,000,000 should be set apart from the canal revenues till 1855, when the sum should be increased to \$1,500,000. This was to be a sinking fund, to pay the interest and redeem the principal of the canal debt, including the \$350,000 then to be borrowed. There is a further provision for the general fund debt. There is a further charge for 1855 upon the canal revenues, of \$100,000, to go towards paying the State expenses. The revenue to meet all these charges, ought to be \$2,100,000, but it will probably fall short of this amount \$200,000, at least. This deficiency will have to be met by loan, and the sum paid to the general fund will be cut off, and thus the deficiency in the general fund, to be met by direct taxation, will amount to half a million.

It will be seen that corrupt legislation at Albany, and the falling off in the canal receipts, caused by railway competition, have, together, entangled the State in a mass of debt. The direct tax must be continued and the remainder of the revenues of the canals, after paying the interest on their debt, will speedily sink to nothing. At any rate, the sinking fund cannot be relied upon to accomplish its purpose, which was gradually to extinguish the State debt. The debt gradually grows larger. In addition to the above, the late administration threw over to the fiscal year beginning October, 1855, an additional charge of \$400,000, to be met from the canal revenue.

The sinking fund, then, can only be relied upon to pay the interest on the canal debt. For something is done to improve the business of the canals, or help their revenues, it may eventually fail to do this.

THE SCHOOL FUND.

amounts to \$2,425,211.07; the income of which, \$310,000 is equally divided among the schools of the State. The Literature Fund is \$268,620.12--the income, \$18,981.50, is divided between the academies in the State, and applied for the purchase of books, maps, globes, &c. The United States Deposit Fund--\$4,014,620.71--income \$254,900, is divided between common schools, Indian schools, academies, State normal schools, Teachers' Institute, &c.

THE CANAL FUND.

consists in the State Canals, and their value is estimated at four millions. Their income is in tolls, and may net this year two millions in round numbers. They owe a debt of seventeen millions on construction account. The Commissioners of the Canal Fund are the Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of State, the Comptroller, the Treasurer, and the Attorney General--one black republican whig, and the rest Know Nothings. These Commissioners elect their Auditor, who is to the canal finances what the Comptroller is to the State. Hon. N. S. Benton will undoubtedly fill this office during the next two years, and the canal will be in his hands of their friends.

The Legislature will be called upon to do something to alleviate the canal finances from the terrible catastrophe in which they have been involved by a course of such expenditures to feed a hungry lobby.

THE CANAL BOARD.

For the current year, it is composed:

Henry J. Raymond..... Lieut. Gov., Pres. Board.

James S. Roosevelt..... Sec. of State.

Samuel L. Selden..... Comptroller.

James S. Roosevelt..... Treasurer.

Samuel L. Selden..... Attorney General.

James S. Roosevelt..... State Engineer.

Samuel L. Selden..... State Auditor.

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